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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

Ingham et al.

Serial No: 08/954,771

Attorney Docket No. HMSU-P11-006

Filed: October 20, 1997

Art Unit: 1646

For: Vertebrate Embryonic Pattern-  
Inducing Proteins and Uses Related  
Thereto

Examiner: M. Brannock

45/m  
H.Q.J  
12/4/02CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, EV161064285US, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below:

November 15, 2002

Date of Signature  
and of Mail Deposit  
Brent LaBargeCommissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231Preliminary Amendment

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments:

In the claims:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined, whether or not amended, are presented below.

~~Please cancel, without prejudice, claims 131, 145 and 150.~~

123. **(Twice Amended)** A method for promoting one or more of growth, differentiation, and survival of neuronal cells in culture, comprising contacting said cells with an amount of a *hedgehog* polypeptide at least 80% identical to at least one sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, or an N-terminal fragment of at least 50

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